

GRAPPEVINE

VISITACION VALLEY

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SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 2006

Test Run for Light Rail Vehicles in Visitacion Valley



Muni recently tested light rail vehicles on the new T-Third Street line at the last station along Bayshore Boulevard at Sunnydale Avenue. Limited weekend service is set to begin in January. Regular service along the 5.4-mile regular route is slated to begin in April from the Caltrain Station at 4th and King streets to Visitacion Valley. Plans call for an LRV every nine minutes during morning and afternoon rush hours, with 12 and 20 minutes intervals at night until 1 a.m.

American Red Cross Suggests a Home Earthquake Plan

The images of the 6.6 magnitude earthquake that struck Hawaii in October hits close to home as we remember the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake that registered 7.1 on the Richter scale on Oct. 17, 1989.

At the peak of that emergency, the American Red Cross Bay Area (ARCBA) housed 15,000 people in 45 shelters, and served 20,000 meals-a-day (642,000 meals were served in total from shelters and mobile feeding units).

Red Cross volunteers had to contend with a vast geographic area ranging from densely populated and de-

veloped urban cities to rural farms and mountainous terrain.

In total, the Red Cross opened over 16,000 cases. The earthquake was centered about 60 miles south of San Francisco, and was felt as far away as San Diego and western Nevada. A total of \$5.9 million in damages resulted from this 15 second earthquake.

"Eight major earthquake faults run beneath the surface of the Bay Area," said Harold Brooks, CEO of ARCBA. Prepare a Home Earthquake Plan

"Choose a safe place in every room — under a sturdy table or desk or against

an inside wall where nothing can fall on you.

*Practice drop, cover, and hold on at least twice a year. Drop under a sturdy desk or table, hold on, and protect your eyes by pressing your face against your arm. If there's no table or desk nearby, sit on the floor against an interior wall away from windows, bookcases, or tall furniture that could fall on you. Teach children to drop, cover, and hold on!

*Plan ahead for the possibility of becoming separated from your family and friends by choosing an out-of-town contact that each family or household member can call or email should a disaster occur.

*Consult a professional to find out additional ways you can protect your home, such as bolting the house to its foundation and other structural mitigation techniques.

*Take a first aid class from your local Red Cross chapter. Keep your training current.

*Get training in using a fire extinguisher from your local fire department.

*Inform babysitters and caregivers of your emergency evacuation plan.

Eliminate Hazards, Including:

*Bolting bookcases, china cabinets, and other tall furniture to wall studs.

*Installing strong latches on cupboards.

*Strapping the water heater to wall studs.

See Page 3

Project S.F. Continues at Middle School

Project San Francisco continues its third year as a schoolwide program at Visitacion Valley Middle School (VVMS) with students arranged in homerooms studying different units every six weeks.

Project leaders from each homeroom attend a first period class to organize and evaluate the program and its activities. They recently reported success in the first round of the Project's activity wheel and are looking forward to the upcoming units during the year.

Units showcased at VVMS this

year include: Art, Dance, Compassion, Health and Fitness in sixth grade; the History of Visitacion Valley, Health, Art, Kids n' Parks, Drama and Media Literacy in the seventh grade; and Golden Gate Park, City College, Alcatraz, Civic Center, Barbary Coast and Sports in the Eighth Grade.

Meanwhile, Project leaders are working to improve units that are created by the teachers, while providing constructive input from the student viewpoint of what makes learning more interesting and fun.

Incentives to Keep S.F. Police Officers

Mayor Gavin Newsom on Oct. 23 announced \$250,000 in financial incentives to retain experienced SFPD officers as well as incentives to recruit experienced officers from other jurisdictions. The incentives raise pay for SFPD officers with 30 years or more of service, offer bonuses for officers who refer successful candidates, and provide signing bonuses for officers hired from other police agencies.

"This proposal is vital for the public safety of San Francisco. In addition to the hiring of 700 new police officers over the next 5 years, we must do all that we can to retain our experienced law enforcement professionals," said Mayor Newsom. "These bonuses allow for our veteran police officers to stay on the force, while also declaring to the best and brightest in law enforcement, across the United States, that San Francisco will compensate you accordingly for your services."

The proposal - which is an amendment to the 2003-2007 Memorandum of Understanding between the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Police Officers' Association (SFPOA) - specifically establishes the following: retention pay of an additional 4 percent for officers who have completed thirty or more years of service, provides \$1,000 referral bonuses for officers who refer successful candidates for police officer positions, provides lateral signing bonuses of \$5,000 for police officers hired from other police agencies, allocates \$250,000 annually to a joint labor-management recruitment committee, and eliminates the practice of allowing retiring officers to use accrued leave during their final 90 days of employment.

The 4 percent retention pay increase would take effect June 30, 2007, while the referral and signing bonuses would be effective immediately.

San Francisco Minimum Wage to Increase

Starting Jan. 1, San Francisco's lowest paid workers will get a 3.6 percent raise. The San Francisco Office of Labor Standards Enforcement announced today that the city's minimum wage of \$8.82 per hour will be adjusted to \$9.14.

The Minimum Wage Ordinance, passed by the voters in November 2003, calls for annual rate adjustments based on the previous year's Consumer Price Index for urban wage earners in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose metropolitan area.

"This wage adjustment provides the city's workers with more purchasing power," said Mayor Gavin Newsom. "With the cost of living rising steadily nationwide,

this local wage increase means that San Francisco's workers will have more funds available for their monthly expenses."

The City is preparing updated multilingual posters announcing the new rates to be mailed to 90,000 registered businesses. Employers are required to post the notice in their workplace. Additional information regarding San Francisco's Minimum Wage Ordinance can be found at www.sfgov.org/ or by calling (415) 554-6292.

The national minimum wage currently stands at \$5.15 per hour, and the State of California's minimum wage, which is currently \$6.75 per hour, will be raised to \$7.50 on Jan. 1, with a subsequent increase to \$8 taking place.

S.F. Again Named Top Tourist Destination

Mayor Gavin Newsom recently acknowledged that San Francisco has again taken top honors as the country's number one city.

Conde Nast's Traveler Magazine, considered as one of the world's top travel and destination guides, has ranked the city of San Francisco as the top travel destination among US Cities for the 14th consecutive year. In its 19th annual Readers' Choice Awards to be featured in its current edition, approximately 21,000 readers choose San Francisco as their top travel city.

"Having San Francisco recognized as the top travel destination among US cities for the 14th consecutive year is indeed an exception-

al honor and achievement," noted Mayor Newsom. "This is an unprecedented accomplishment that solidifies San Francisco's reputation as a world class international city and a splendid place to visit."

San Francisco was followed by Santa Fe, NM, and New York City in the Top Cities - United States category. Each city was judged according to specific criteria such as ambiance, friendliness, culture/sites, and restaurants, lodging and shopping. Full details are published in the November issue of Conde Nast Traveler.

On a global basis, San Francisco received the second highest ranking for any city in the world, second only to Sydney, Australia.

"Excellence in Motion" Awarded by MTC

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) received top honors on Oct. 25 at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) 27th annual "Excellence in Motion" Transportation Awards breakfast held at the San Francisco Ferry Building.

SFMTA award recipients recognized for their commitment to improving the quality of life in San Francisco included:

*The Department of Parking and Traffic (DPT), a division of the SFMTA,

*Rodger "Tim" Reilly, retired Craft Worker, and

*Peter Tannen, retired Bicycle Program Director.

The SFMTA continuously seeks out opportunities to collaborate with community members to devise comprehensive transportation solutions. The MTC Grand Award recognized two such efforts undertaken by DPT in conjunction with two neighborhood groups, the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association and the San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save Our Street, and the Department of Public Works. Called the "SF Streets Renaissance," the Octavia Boulevard and the San Jose/Guerrero Streets projects exemplified the SFTMA's corridor-wide planning approach that brings the expertise of DPT as well as Muni to bear to create safer, more efficient transportation for pedestrians, cyclists, transit, and motorists.

In addition to the award for the efforts of DPT, retired SFMTA

Cable Car Craft Worker, Rodger "Tim" Reilly was recognized with the Greta Ericson Distinguished Service Award for long-term, steadfast quality leadership in the transportation profession. For more than 20 years, Reilly was the pattern maker for the Municipal Railway, making the patterns for the molds that are needed to create the metal parts that must be cast by Muni, including the patterns for the bells on the world-famous cable cars.

For his commitment to safe and convenient cycling in San Francisco, Peter Tannen, the SFMTA's retired Bicycle Program Director, was honored with an MTC Merit Award. Under Tannen's leadership, the Bicycle Program installed over 1,500 bike racks, created a 200+ mile bike route network, and installed more than 1,000 shared roadway markings, now a standard California traffic control device. As a result of Tannen's efforts, injury bicycle collisions decreased by 30% while the number of bicyclists more than doubled.

Established by voter proposition in 1999, the SFMTA, a department of the City and County of San Francisco, oversees both the Municipal Railway (Muni) and the Department of Parking and Traffic. With five modes of transit, MUNI has over 700,000 passenger boardings each day. Over 35,000 extra vehicles enter San Francisco on any given business day, and rely on DPT to keep the flow of cars, transit vehicles, delivery trucks, pedestrians, and bicycles moving smoothly.

Gas Prices Continue a Steady Drop in Northern California

Gas prices have dropped to their lowest levels in California in seven months. In many communities, the average price per gallon of regular unleaded has fallen by 60 cents or more since the current downward trend began in mid-August.

According to a new report from AAA of Northern California, which tracks gas prices as a service to consumers, the statewide average price for a gallon of regular unleaded gas on Oct. 10 was \$2.60. That price represents a decrease of 36 cents per gallon from the last monthly AAA gas price report on Sept. 12.

"What constitutes a reasonable price appears to be changing," said Sean Coney, spokesman for AAA of Northern California. "Almost exactly two years ago, the statewide average gas price hit a new record high: \$2.24

a gallon. Many people were outraged. Today, the price is 36 cents a gallon more than it was then and some consumers say they're relieved the cost of fuel is so low."

Lower prices for crude oil, the raw material from which gas is made, are helping drive down fuel costs for consumers. In the short term, there do not seem to be any imminent problems that would tend to push prices higher. Although OPEC, the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries, is considering a decrease in oil production in response to falling prices, there do not appear to be any significant concerns about supply in the market at this time.

The current average price in California is 40 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The most expensive gasoline in the country was found in Missouri.

average gas price in California communities where AAA monitors fuel costs is in Eureka, where regular unleaded sells for \$2.92 per gallon. The lowest price among California cities tracked by AAA is in Marysville, where gas costs an average of \$2.45 per gallon. Throughout Northern California, the average price is \$2.61. In the Bay Area, the average price is \$2.68. The statewide average record high price of \$3.38 was set on May 18 this year.

The nationwide average price for regular unleaded was \$2.26 per gallon, down 35 cents from the previous AAA gas price report on September 12. The national average was 34 cents per gallon lower than the California statewide average price. The least expensive gasoline in the country was found in Missouri.

Grapevine Mailbox**Executive Park Planning Workshops**

Plans are afoot to transform Executive Park, the unrealized office park east of U.S. 101, into San Francisco's newest residential neighborhood. In early June, the Planning Department released for public discussion a first draft plan for this new neighborhood.

What is happening now?

As you may recall, at the first meeting in July we presented the Draft Plan and the new vision for Executive Park. Now we would like to hear from you! We will be holding two meetings this fall. At the first meeting, we will update you on the new timeline and status of the Draft Plan and break into working groups to get your feedback. We will also explain the process for the environmental review and prepare you for the environmental scoping meeting to take place a week later. We hope you can attend both meetings.

***First Meeting - Community Feedback:** Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6 to 8 p.m.
***Second Meeting - Environmental Scoping:** Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6 to 8 p.m.

Both meetings are held at this location: Executive Park, 5 Thomas Melon Drive

The meeting location is accessible to persons using wheelchairs and others with disabilities. Handouts are available in large print. People needing assistive listening devices, materials in other alternative formats, American Sign Language interpreters and other accommodations should call 558-6307 at least 72 hours ahead.

More Hybrid Stickers For HOV Freeway Lanes

A bill signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger grants the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) the authority to dispense 10,000 additional stickers, allowing owners of qualifying hybrid vehicles to drive solo in California's High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes for the next five years.

The hybrid decal program, enacted in September 2004, and launched in August 2005, originally established a cap of 75,000 decals for some of the state's cleanest, most fuel-efficient

Facts About America's Favorite Fix-All

Those looking for a way to fix bad credit, mend a broken heart or piece together the meaning of life may find that America's favorite fix-all-duct tape falls a bit short. So let's just say the possibilities for this adhesive are nearly endless.

As a solution for unexpected repairs and a medium for creative expression, duct tape has adhered to American culture and become an integral addition to toolboxes, craft bins and toy chests.

Duct tape was originally developed in 1942 for soldiers who needed an all-purpose and waterproof adhesive to assist during World War II. For the less utilitarian and much craftier users of today, we offer a few helpful product facts and tips for this tape of all trades:

*Duct tape works best when it's at room temperature. If the surface temperature is below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, the adhesive will harden and possibly freeze before adhesion takes place.

*To maintain pliability and prevent a sticky mess, store duct tape in a dry, temperate environment with sheets of parchment paper between rolls.

cars that would expire on January 1, 2008. The Governor's signing of AB 2600 (Lieu) last Friday raises that limit to allow the issuance of 85,000 stickers, while also extending the sunset date an additional three years to January 1, 2011. AB 2600 takes effect January 1, 2007.

"With just over 72,000 stickers issued to date, California's hybrid decal program has obviously proven very popular and successful with hybrid owners, and has helped increase public awareness and acceptance of advanced automotive technologies," said DMV Director George Valverde. "We look forward to extending the life of the program."

"While the decals provided a great initial incentive to buy hybrid cars, most people have invested in them for their long-term benefits," said Air Resources Executive Officer Catherine Witherspoon. "Hybrids are among the least-polluting vehicles on the market. The environment is benefiting from their popularity, as are the savvy commuters who have taken advantage of the program."

Along with an \$8 fee, drivers submit their applications to DMV for review and approval and the department then issues the decals on a first-come, first-served basis. The Air Resources Board determines which models meet the program's stringent emissions and fuel efficiency requirements, while the Department of Transportation assesses the program's impact on traffic patterns.

At this time, the only hybrid vehicles permitted to sport the yellow stickers are cars of the following model year and make: 2000 – 2004 Honda Insight, 2003 – 2007 Honda Civic Hybrid, and the 2001 – 2007 Toyota Prius.

Vehicle owners who qualify for the stickers must fill out an updated REG 1000 form available on the DMV Web site (www.dmv.ca.gov) or at a nearby office. The form and the fee must then be mailed to DMV headquarters in Sacramento at: Department of Motor Vehicles, Special Processing Unit MS D238, P.O. Box 932345, Sacramento, CA. 94232-3450.

For more information on the Hybrid Decal Program, please visit the DMV Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov, the ARB Web site at www.arb.ca.gov, or Governor Schwarzenegger's Web site at www.gov.ca.gov.

Can Your Community Meet the Challenge? Keeping Our City of San Francisco Clean and Green

by Mayor Gavin Newsom

San Francisco is considered by many to be one of the greatest cities in America. Keeping our city clean and green is vital to maintaining this distinct honor.

As Mayor, I am dedicated to working with businesses and communities to support innovative projects that will make San Francisco's streets and public spaces vibrant and healthy. I believe green and clean neighborhoods are essential to the quality of life, economic development, social fabric, and environmental health of San Francisco. Together, we can make San Francisco a clean and green city that residents are proud to call home and a city that keeps visitors coming back year after year.

With that, I challenge every community to get involved and do their part to keep San Francisco clean and green. One way you can help is to take part in our Community Challenge Grant Program (CCG). The goals of the Program are to promote greening of public spaces, such as medians, sidewalks, and community gardens; engage residents and businesses directly in this work; and use greening projects as a catalyst to get neighborhoods working together to address local issues.

Formerly known as the Neighborhood Beautification Fund, the CCG provides resources to local residents, businesses, non-profits and other community groups to make improvements to their neighborhoods. The CCG focuses on projects that directly engage residents and businesses in creating green spaces, community gathering places, public art, and other neighborhood amenities. The program is an important tool for enabling communities to take the lead in conducting small-scale improvements in their own communities, and is a critical component of my "Liveable City Initiative."

Challenge Grants empower you to improve your neighborhood.

Groups of residents or businesses,

community groups, and non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply. Neighborhood residents or business owners must apply through a nonprofit organization.

If you need help satisfying this requirement, you can contact Lanita Henriquez, Program Manager at 554-4830.

Sustaining neighborhood improvements is just as important as building them and to that end, the

program requires a five-year maintenance plan and requires groups to match our contribution with volunteer labor, donated materials, and supplies.

CCG will fund projects from \$10,000 to \$100,000 and the application deadline is Monday, December 18, 2006. Please call 554-4830 or log on to www.sfcgp.org to get more information about the application timeline and criteria for awards.

Avoiding the Five Costliest Car Repairs

Want your car and your money to go as far as possible? AAA of Northern California has advice for consumers on how to extend their paychecks as well as the lives of their automobiles.

By performing scheduled maintenance, being alert to signs of wear, and changing a few driving habits, vehicle owners can help save themselves the money and trouble associated with the repairs below:

1. Engine failure - \$3,000 and up: Rapid acceleration and speeding wear out an engine more quickly, as well as decreasing fuel efficiency, so driving less aggressively is definitely good for your bank account. Let your car run for a moment before you leave to allow the oil to warm up and circulate. Check fluids and replace oil on schedule according to the owner's manual.

2. Transmission - \$2,000 and up: To protect your transmission, avoid quick starts and try not to overload your vehicle. This places more stress on the transmission system than it was designed to take. Don't use overdrive when towing for the same reason. Check transmission fluid often and add more whenever needed.

3. Full brake system - \$1,200 and up: Quick stops, tailgating and riding the brakes are all bad driving habits that shorten the life of your braking system and add more risk for accidents. Pay attention to leaks, noises and smells and take the vehicle into the shop if you notice anything irregular. Get regular inspections of the brake system to check wear.

"Vehicle maintenance is as important as putting gas in your car," said AAA automotive expert Mark Woods. "Today's vehicles are expensive and very sophisticated. In order to protect your investment and keep you on the road, have services performed on schedule and you'll save time and money in the future."

Legislation Introduced To Restrict S.F. Building Demolition Permits

Supervisor Sophie Maxwell introduced legislation at an Oct. 3 Board of Supervisors meeting that would prohibit the city's issuance of a demolition permit on a building with residential units in advance of a replacement project's approval by the City.

In addition, the replacement project would require conditional use approval from the City.

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VISITACION VALLEY

Editor: Len Appiano

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NAPS

Watercooler Counsel

Business of Baby Boomers

by Rich Proulx

Q: For purposes of background checks, I request the birth date of applicants for jobs with my business. The other day, a prospective employee told me that this was illegal. I'm not a big employer and don't have the luxury of a company attorney. Is this really illegal? - Hesitant in Hiring, Fairbanks, AK

A: This is a great question and there are actually a lot of myths out there about the birth date issue. There is nothing in the Federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act which prohibits asking for dates of birth from applicants, however some states do have laws that prohibit asking this question (Alaska does not). Even if it is not against the law in your state as EEOC Investigator Malinda Tuazon explained, these kinds of inquiries may deter older workers from applying for employment and may raise flags for other prospective employees or the EEOC. Because requests for age information could be closely scrutinized to make sure they are made for legitimate, lawful purposes, it is recommended that you consider whether you really need that information before you put it on an application. Another thing not all employers realize is that it is illegal to use language in ads that could deter older applicants because they believe they wouldn't be considered. Some of the most common mistakes include asking for "recent college grads" or people looking for an "after-school job." Exceptions to this part of the law exist, but only in situations where an employer can justify that the language is used for legitimate business purposes; for example, if a talent agent is looking for "twentysomething looking" actors. That means this wouldn't exclude an individual over 40 who's lucky enough to still look like a twenty-something!

Q: I recently applied for a promotion which would require me to go to training. My supervisor told me he would love to put me into the position, but that the company didn't think it was worth sending me to training because I will probably retire soon. I'm only 62 and I have absolutely no plans to retire. Are they allowed to do that? - Passed Over and Peeved, Helena, MT

A: Uh oh! Sadly, yours is not an uncommon situation even in today's workforce. What many employers don't realize is that it's not up to them to determine your career or retirement plans for you. In determining the most qualified applicant for a given position, an employer should compare the candidates' aptitude for the position and leave age out of it. As EEOC District Director Joan Ehrlich stated in a recent press release touting their settlement with the City of San Jose who allegedly denied a promotion to a qualified 72 year-old employee: "many employers today find it necessary to continue to work into their late 60s and 70s — not only for their economic needs, but because they find work challenging and rewarding."

Q: I just read something about a case in California where a judge ruled that United Parcel Service was discriminating against deaf people by not allowing them to drive their delivery trucks. I just applied for a position delivering soft drinks for a major distributor but they told me I wouldn't be eligible because I have some hearing loss. Can I sue them for discrimination? - Rebuffed and Riled Up, Twin Falls, ID

A: Before you march down to court, let me explain some of the more complex elements of that UPS case. The Appeals Court ruled that UPS violated the Americans with Disabilities Act by categorically excluding people from positions as

"package-car drivers" because they could not pass the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) hearing test. The catch in this case is that UPS was applying the DOT standard to all applicants for driving positions, but the DOT test is only required for people who drive vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds. UPS has over 5,000 vehicles that weigh less than that, meaning they have over 5,000 vehicles which may be driven by someone who has not passed the hearing test. UPS argued that it was demonstrating vigilant concern for safety. In theory, this was a good position for UPS to take. In reality, it kept individuals with disabilities that prevented them from passing the DOT hearing test from being able to compete for jobs they would have otherwise been qualified for.

This is an excellent example of an employer who applies a policy which seems to be neutral but has a discriminatory impact on a certain protected group. In order to prevent this from happening, businesses need to balance their business necessity for a policy with the extent to which it may negatively impact a certain group of people. In your case, it could be that the trucks you would have been driving were over 10,000 pounds and, therefore, you would have been required to pass the DOT hearing standard. It seems strange that the company didn't at least give you the test to see if you would pass. If you think something is fishy, you might call your local EEOC office to discuss the specific

ics of your case.

Q: I recently contacted an applicant to a position I have open and invited her to an interview. Today, I received a letter from her confirming our interview date, but asking for an interpreter because she's apparently deaf. She even had the audacity to suggest a place where I could find an interpreter. I was just planning on disregarding her application and looking for someone else I won't have to shell out money for before the hire, let alone after. But my business partner said he's not so sure about that idea and wanted me to double check. Can you set us straight? - Resentful of a Request, Lodi, CA

A: Danger, Will Robinson! Danger! Thank your partner because he may be saving you from a potential lawsuit. Take a second to think about this... You know from reading our column religiously that there is such a thing as the Americans with Disabilities Act which protects workers and applicants from being treated differently because of their disability. Obviously, you were impressed enough by this applicant's qualifications to invite her for an interview. If she weren't deaf, the interpreter request wouldn't be an issue and you would still consider her for a position, right? You need to provide the interpreter and give her as much consideration for the position as applicants without disabilities. I suggest you contact the Job Accommodation Network (www.jan.wvu.edu) for ideas on securing an interpreter

and suggestions about how you might accommodate this applicant if you decide she's the best candidate for the job. Did I tell you to thank your partner?

Our team of government experts won't retire until we've answered your questions. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of work-

ers aged 55 and older will grow by almost 50 percent by 2014, while the entire labor force is projected to grow by only 10 percent! Send your questions to Watercooler.Counsel@erc.gc.ca. Rich is a former Supervisory Investigator for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (www.eeoc.gov). Identifying information in the questions may be fictional.

American Red Cross Offers Earthquake Tips

From Page 1

Prepare a Disaster Supplies Kit for Home and Car, Including

- *First aid kit and essential medications.

- *Canned food and can opener.

- *At least three gallons of water per person.

- *Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags.

- *Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries.

- *Special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members.

- *Written instructions for how to turn off gas, electricity, and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn natural gas service back on.)

- *Keeping essentials, such as a flashlight and sturdy shoes, by your bedside.

What to Do When the Shaking Begins

*DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON!

Move only a few steps to a nearby safe place. Stay indoors until the shaking stops and you're sure it's safe to exit. Stay away from windows. In a high-rise building, expect the fire alarms and sprinklers to go off during a quake.

*If you are in bed, hold on and stay there, protecting your head

with a pillow.

*If you are outdoors, find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, and power lines. Drop to the ground.

*If you are in a car, slow down and drive to a clear place (as described above). Stay in the car until the shaking stops.

What to Do After the Shaking Stops

*Check yourself for injuries. Protect yourself from further danger by putting on long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes, and work gloves.

*Check others for injuries. Give first aid for serious injuries.

*Look for and extinguish small fires. Eliminate fire hazards. Turn off the gas if you smell gas or think it's leaking. (Remember, only a professional should turn it back on.)

*Listen to the radio for instructions.

*Expect aftershocks. Each time you feel one, DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON!

*Inspect your home for damage. Get everyone out if your home is unsafe.

*Use the telephone only to report life-threatening emergencies.

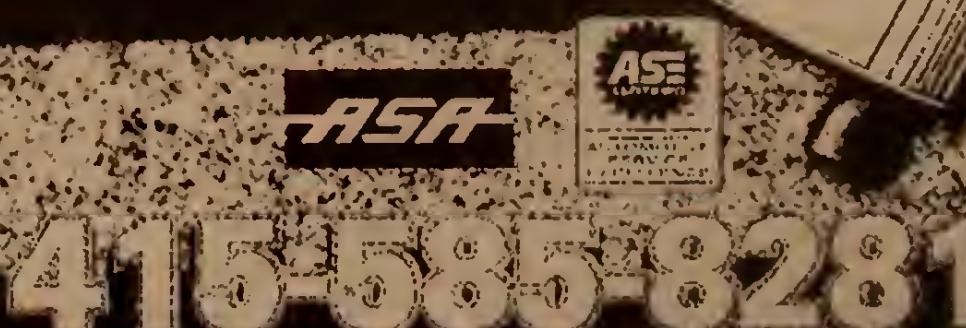
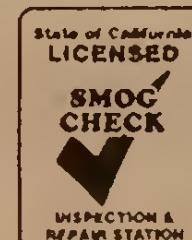
For more information on earthquake safety, contact the American Red Cross at 1-888-4-HELP-BAY or visit www.redcrossbayarea.org.

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- Electrical Service
- Insurance Work
- Welcome
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- Tune-up
- Muffler & Pipes
- Catalytic Converter
- Performance
- Dual Exhaust
- Custom Bending



2500 BAYSHORE BLVD. (at Visitacion)

EarthTalk

Solar Water Heater

Dear EarthTalk: I heard that using a solar powered water heater in my home would reduce my CO₂ emissions significantly. Is this true? And what are the costs?

-Anthony Gerst, Wapello, IA

According to mechanical engineers at the University of Wisconsin's Solar Energy Laboratory, an average four-person household with an electric water heater needs about 6,400 kilowatt hours of electricity per year to heat their water. Assuming the

electricity is generated by a typical power plant with an efficiency of around 30 percent, it means that the average electric water heater is responsible for about eight tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) annually, which is almost double that emitted by a typical modern automobile.

The same family of four using either a natural gas or oil-fired water heater will contribute about two tons of CO₂ emissions annually in heating their water. Surprising as it may seem, analysts believe that the annual total CO₂ produced by residential water heaters throughout North America is roughly equal to that produced by all of the cars and light trucks driving around the continent. Another way of looking at it is: If half of all households used solar water heaters, the reduction in CO₂ emissions would be the same as doubling the fuel-efficiency of all cars.

And that might not be such a tall order. According to the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), there are 1.5 million solar water heaters already in use in U.S. homes and businesses. Systems can work in any climate and EESI estimates that 40 percent of all U.S. homes have sufficient access to sunlight such that 29 million additional solar heaters could be installed right now.

Another great reason to make the switch is a financial one. According to the EESI, residential solar water heating systems cost between \$1,500 and \$3,500 compared to \$150 to \$450 for electric and gas heaters. With savings in electricity or natural gas, solar water heaters pay for themselves within four to eight years. They last between 15 and 40 years—the same as conventional systems—so after that initial payback period is up, zero energy cost essentially means having free hot water for years to come.

What's more, in 2005 the U.S. began offering homeowners tax credits of up to 30 percent (capped at

\$2,000) of the cost of installing a solar water heater. The credit is not available for swimming pool or hot tub heaters, and the system must be certified by the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy's "Consumer's Guide to Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency," zoning and building codes relating to the installation of solar water heaters usually reside at the local level, so consumers should be sure to research the standards for their own communities and hire a certified installer familiar with local re-

quirements. Homeowners beware: Most municipalities require a building permit for the installation of a solar hot water heater onto an existing house.

For Canadians looking to get into solar water heating, the Canadian Solar Industries Association maintains a list of certified solar water heater installers, and Natural Resources Canada makes its informative booklet "Solar Water Heating Systems: A Buyer's Guide" available as a free download on their website.

Contact: U.S. Department of Energy, www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/

Protecting Your Personal Information Against Identity Theft

by Jason Alderman

One of today's fastest-growing and most ominous crimes is identity theft, where someone steals your personal information and uses it to open a bank account or loan, make purchases, secure false identification, or commit other offenses. Victims are often unaware it's happened for months, by which time their credit may have been damaged or worse.

How do identity thieves get your information? It could be as simple as rummaging through your trash, snatching your purse or stealing your mail, or as "high-tech" as hacking into your email account or your employer's computer system. Thieves sometimes steal credit card receipts from dumpsters and have even been known to watch with binoculars as people enter their personal codes into telephones or ATMs.

Fortunately, there are steps you can take to protect your personal information and many resources available to help.

There are hundreds of helpful Web sites, such as the Federal Trade Commission's at www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

Here are a few preventative tips offered by the experts:

*Always shred documents containing personal information before discarding them.

*Take all card receipts and carbons with you, especially from

ATMs, supermarkets, and self-service gas pumps.

*Don't give out personal information on the phone, by mail or over the Internet unless you initiated the contact and know with whom you're dealing.

*With your computer, never click on links in unsolicited emails, don't choose obvious passwords, and use up-to-date firewalls, anti-spyware and anti-virus software.

*Store personal information in a secure place, especially if you employ outside help or have work done on your house.

*Be aware when mail or bills don't arrive as expected, if you receive unexpected credit cards or statements, if a credit application is denied for no apparent reason, or if you are contacted by debt collectors or businesses about goods or services you didn't buy.

*Save and compare credit card receipts with charges on monthly statements. If you find an error, immediately contact the card issuer via phone and in writing.

*Under federal law, the major nationwide consumer reporting companies, Equifax, Experian and TransUnion, must provide you a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once every 12 months. To order, go to www.annualcreditreport.com or

call 877-322-8228. Carefully review them for incorrect personal information, inquiries from companies you don't recognize, accounts you didn't open, or unexplained debts.

*If you suspect identity theft, immediately contact the fraud departments at Equifax (800-525-6285), Experian (888-397-3742) and TransUnion (800-680-7289). Ask them to place a "fraud alert" in your file and to send a copy of your credit report.

*Visit Practical Money Skills for Life, www.practicalmoneyskills.com, a free personal finance site sponsored by Visa USA that features step-by-step actions you should take if you suspect identity theft, as well as advice for safeguarding your information.

*If a theft has taken place, file a police report and get a copy in case your creditors need proof. Also file a complaint with the FTC at its Identity Theft Hotline (877-IDTHEFT) or online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

Identity theft can be a serious, frustrating and time-consuming problem, but with the right preparations, you can minimize your chances of being victimized. Jason Alderman directs the Practical Money Skills for Life program for Visa USA. You can learn more about information theft and other personal finance tips at www.practicalmoneyskills.com. As always, consult a financial professional regarding your particular situation.

Saturdays are Special at Randall Museum

The Randall Museum offers drop-in, hands-on art and science workshops every Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above the Castro). Workshops are \$3 per child; \$5 for a parent and child combo. All kids under 8 must be with a paying adult. Call 554-9600 for further information.

*Nov. 4: Meet a live snake and see a snake skin and skeleton. Learn some strange but true snake facts and make your own snake prints.

*Nov. 18: Make your own brush painted scroll.

*Nov. 25: Geronimo! Build a catapult that really works and make a tiny stunt turkey to fly through the air.

Randall Museum will be closed Saturday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

Other regular Saturday activities include:

*Morning Family Ceramics from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (\$5 per person workshop fee)

*Meet the Animals from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon.

*Animal Feeding at 12 noon.

*Golden Gate Model Railroad Club Exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

JOHN W. KING SENIOR CENTER

500 Raymond Ave. San Francisco, CA 94134

Nutritional lunches will be served at noon for \$1.50. Come one, come all!

The Senior Center has many facilities, including our spacious courtyard and many senior programs for the neighborhood!

Arts & Crafts

Bingo

Ceramic

Karaoke

Supplemental Food Program

English & Computer Classes

Movies

Line Dance

Tai Chi

Transportation

Call: (415) 239-6233

Fax: 239-2262

Book Review

WWII German Childhood

Author Fred Bonisch shares the captivating true story of his childhood in World War II Germany in his new book, *Children of Our Own War: A Boy's Journey* (now available through AuthorHouse), a collection of short stories recounting his experiences.

With his father serving in the German military and eventually being captured and held as a prisoner of war, Bonisch's mother took on the role of sole provider and caregiver for him, his two brothers and sister. Bonisch recalls her comfort through fear, hunger and frequent air raids.

Many families huddled together for financial and emotional support during these tragic times. As a result, Bonisch and his family shared their small house with another family. As the Russian military occupied German territories, though, many family members were left homeless and forced to move in with the Bonischs. A young boy at the time, he recalls this time as comfortable rather than crowded. "Even though the house was filled with people, it was something we as children enjoyed and even became a sort of comfort."

German history is explored in relation to how it affected the family. Bonisch discusses the change of currency, American occupation and the difficult years after the war as the country rebuilt. He explains the ways that these events changed his life as he recalls positive memories of the American occupation. "In April 1945, just several days prior to the war's end, our town was in fact occupied by American forces," he says. "For us, it became a day of liberation and a new beginning. The occupation period had a very positive effect on me personally."

"The message intended is simply to share how we as a family experienced this," he says. "We don't always hear the details of families who have lived through such a period. This was especially so during the long post-war period when people simply preferred not to talk about these events. Now, two generations later, there is a new interest and openness toward this topic."

Bonisch was so affected by the American occupation that he immigrated to the United States 14 years after the war at the age of 20. He joined the U.S. Army at the age of 24. After his discharge he became a United States citizen. He attended State University of New York at Buffalo and eventually made his home in Western New York. As a father and grandfather, he hopes this book will enable his children to understand their heritage. Though he has written various articles related to World War II and the Holocaust, *Children of Our Own War* is his first book. More information is available at www.childrenofourownwar.com. AuthorHouse is the premier publishing house for emerging authors and new voices in literature. For more information, please visit www.authorhouse.com.

Cooking Corner

Easy Scalloped Eggplant

1 medium eggplant, peeled and cubed (about 3 cups); 1 Tbsp. parsley, finely chopped; 12 ounces grated cheddar cheese; reserve a few tablespoons for topping; 2 eggs; 1 medium onion, chopped; 1 cup cracker crumbs; salt and pepper to taste; butter.

Peel and cube eggplant. In a medium saucepan, boil eggplant until tender, about 10 minutes.

Drain well. In a lightly buttered baking dish, combine eggplant, parsley, cheese (reserve some for topping), eggs, onion and cracker crumbs.

Sprinkle with remaining cheese, salt and pepper and dot with butter. Bake at 350° F for 25 minutes or until firm. Serve immediately. Serves 4.

NAPS

FREE CERAMICS CLASS

For everyone 18 and older at Visitacion Valley Community Center, 66 Raymond Avenue Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Very therapeutic and fun. You do not need to stay the entire day...come for as long as you like. We have a wonderful teacher to assist you.

For more information, call the VCC Senior Program: (415) 467-4499

Church of the Visitacion
Roman Catholic (1907)

99 Years in Visitacion Valley

Daily Masses (Mon-Fri) 7 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Masses 8 & 9:30 a.m. (11 a.m. Spanish) 12:30 & 5 p.m.

Religious Education: Grades K-8 (Saturday only) 239-6723

Come, Let us worship together!

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San Francisco, CA 94134-2838
(415) 239-5950
Rev. Zachary J. Shore, Pastor

JOHN W. KING SENIOR CENTER
500 Raymond Ave. San Francisco, CA 94134

Nutritional lunches will be served at noon for \$1.50. Come one, come all!

The Senior Center has many facilities, including our spacious courtyard and many senior programs for the neighborhood!

Arts & Crafts
Bingo
Ceramic
Karaoke
Supplemental Food Program
English & Computer Classes

Movies
Line Dance
Tai Chi
Transportation

Call: (415) 239-6233
Fax: 239-2262

Attention 3rd Street Motorists!

**NO LEFT TURNS
NO COLLISIONS
NO FINES**



**AVOID A \$154 FINE
AVOID COLLISIONS**

The no-left turn signs along Third Street are being enforced, with Muni light rail vehicles being tested on the tracks.



San Francisco Municipal Railway
A Division of the Municipal Transportation Agency



**R E S P E C T
T H E R A I L**

Joe Leland

around the neighborhood

Where Do You Buy Your Groceries?

The results are in! Safeway was the most used supermarket based upon the limited, non-scientific survey of Visitacion Valley residents. The "supermarket" survey was developed to illustrate a point and not to conclusively determine the prevailing opinion of our diverse community. The results show that the majority of the residents of Visitacion Valley currently shop for groceries at traditional full service supermarkets such as Safeway and not specialty markets such as Trader Joe's and Whole Foods.

Of the 25 respondents, 52 percent selected Safeway as the market that their household did "the majority of your grocery shopping." Twenty percent selected Trader Joe's and 16 percent selected FoodsCo.

Sixty-five percent of the respondents shopped for groceries "two to four times per month" and 30 percent shopped "five or more times a month." Interestingly, those that shopped at Trader Joe's shopped more often. About half of those that shopped "five or more times a month" were Trader Joe's shoppers, while most of the Safeway shoppers only shopped "two to four times per month."

Surveys can be notoriously misleading if the context that they were prepared is not clearly explained and the respondents are not randomly selected. This particular survey only surveyed a small population and could not represent all the diversity of our neighborhood. However it is useful as a starting point for a more comprehensive survey of our opinions.

Holiday Decorations on Leland: Keep your eyes on Leland Avenue near the end of November. VVBOOM and volunteers from the community will once again decorate the parking meter and sign poles with colorful ribbons. VVBOOM will also encourage merchants to decorate their storefronts to help enliven the streetscape. If you would like to help, contact Crezia Tano, VVBOOM's project manager at 415-587-7896 x 104 or email ctano@vvboom.org

Welcome Another New Business: Dragon City Aquarium, located at 144 Leland Ave, right next to Hans Schiller Plaza at Peabody Street, is open for business and a great addition to our every improving Downtown Visitacion Valley. Stop by, say hi ... buy some fish!

***DPW Cleans Leland/Bayshore:** Thanks to supportive words from the Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development, the constant calls from concerned residents, and the hard work of community advocate, the Department of Public Works (DPW) will temporarily be focusing additional clean up efforts in Downtown Visitacion Valley. The commercial blocks of Leland Avenue and portions of Bayshore Boulevard will have dedicated DPW maintenance workers from October 2006 until June 2007 if budgeting allows. Improvements have already begun. The famous "Green Machines" have been seen sweeping the sidewalks and there are regular clean ups along the new light rail tracks. When you see DPW employees working hard to keep our neighborhood clean and litter free, stop and tell them that they're doing a great job. Recognize their efforts by sending DPW a letter or email expressing thanks.

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.



50 RAYMOND AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134

(415) 467-6400

888.877.1111

FAX (415) 467-3357

YES

I WANT TO HELP VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CONTINUE ITS SERVICE TO MY COMMUNITY!

JOIN US - WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER???

- Because we've had a base of community support since 1918
- Because we provide services for children and parents with childcare, early education and after school programs
- Because we support the growth and development of our community's youth, broadening their opportunities for success
- Because we provide our elders with a place to gather and enjoy a wide range of activities and hot meals daily
- Because we provide a place for Resource Center for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities
- Because we provide a whole range of services for our community: individual and family counseling, food distribution, safety programs, space for community meetings and events, the Grapevine News, ESL and Citizenship classes, and more
- Because we're neighbors helping neighbors who love our community and aspire to bring everyone together for our mutual benefit and enjoyment

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT VVCC?

Become a Friend of VVCC

<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	Regular Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Center Advocate
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	Seniors 60 and over	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	Center Sustainer
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	Supporting Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	Center Sponsor
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Center Friend		

I am paying by Check, or by direct deposit installment (please consult with your employer or bank)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Day _____ Evening _____

Email _____

My employer has a matching gift program _____ Name of Employer _____

I am interested in learning about volunteer opportunities

I have remembered Visitacion Valley Community Center in my will

My membership gift is in memory of _____

I prefer my name not be used in VVCC membership lists

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Mailing Address: VVCC Membership, 50 Raymond Ave., 2nd floor, San Francisco, CA 94134

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.



50 RAYMOND AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134

(415) 467-6400

888.877.1111

FAX (415) 467-3357

SI

Deseo ayudar al Centro Comunitario del Valle de Visitación, a que continue los servicios en mi comunidad!

AFILIARSE - POR QUE DEBERIA SER UN MIEMBRO DEL CENTRO COMUNITARIO DE VALLE VISITACIÓN?

- Por que apoyamos a nuestra comunidad desde 1918
- Por que nosotros damos servicios para niños y sus padres con cuidado de niños, educación, y servicios después de la escuela.
- Por que nosotros apoyamos el crecimiento y desarrollo de nuestros jóvenes abriendo así oportunidades para el éxito
- Por que nosotros damos diariamente a nuestros ancianos con un lugar para reunirse y disfrutar una lista variada de actividades y comida.
- Por que nosotros damos un lugar con recursos para ancianos y adultos con discapacidades
- Por que nosotros damos una gran variedad de servicios para nuestra comunidad: Consejero individual y familiar, distribución de comida, programas de seguridad, espacio para reuniones, eventos, el periódico Grape vine, Clases de ciudadanía y inglés como segunda lengua (ESL) y mucho más.
- Por que nosotros somos vecinos ayudando a vecinos que aman a nuestra comunidad e inspiran a todos a traer beneficio mutuo y alegría

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.



50 RAYMOND AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134

(415) 467-6400

888.877.1111

FAX (415) 467-3357

YES

I WANT TO HELP VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CONTINUE TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY!

對我願意協助山谷社區中心繼續服務社區

JOINES - WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER???

- Because we've had a base of community support since 1918
因为我们社區支援相距於一九一八年
- Because we provide services for children and parents with childcare, early education and after school programs.
因为我们為孩子及家長們提供兒童保育、早期教育及課後活動等。
- Because we support the growth and development of our community's youth, broadening their opportunities for success.
因为我们支持青少年的成長及發展，擴闊他們成功的机会
- Because we provide our elders with a place to gather and enjoy a wide range of activities and hot meals daily.
因为我们為長者們提供一個聚會的地方，加上多項活動及每日熱食。
- Because we provide a place for Resource Center for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities
因为我们向長者及殘疾人提供一個資源中心。
- Because we provide a whole range of services for our community: individual and family counseling, food distribution, safety programs, space for community meetings and events, the Grapevine News, ESL and Citizenship classes, and more.
我們為本社區提供全面的服務，其中包括個人家庭諮詢、食物派發、安全計劃、社區會議空間、葡萄藤新聞、ESL和公民班等。
- Because we're neighbors helping neighbors who love our community and aspire to bring everyone together for our mutual benefit and enjoyment.
因为我们鄰居合力為我們的共同福利及歡樂而努力。

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT VVCC ?

您能怎樣支持山谷社區中心？

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc

Become a Friend of VVCC

成為山谷社區會員

<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	Regular Membership 一般會員	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Center Advocate 中心擁護者(團)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	Seniors 60 and over 60歲以上長者	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	Center Sustainer 中心支持者(團)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	Supporting Membership 支持會員	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	Center Sponsor 中心贊助者(團)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Center Friend 中心之友		

2人得使用 1人得
I am paying by Check, or by direct deposit installment (please consult with your employer or bank)

Name 姓名 _____

Address 住址 _____

City 城市 _____ State 州 _____ Zip Code 郵遞區號 _____

Telephone Day 白天電話 Evening 晚上電話 _____

Email 電郵地址 _____

My employer has a matching gift program 本人雇主有匹配贈賞相同款額予計劃

Name of Employer 企業名稱 _____

I am interested in learning about volunteer opportunities 本人想知成為志願者的機會

I have remembered Visitacion Valley Community Center in my will 本人將訪谷社區中心置於遺囑內

My membership gift is in memory of 本人會將贈品以某人紀念

I prefer my name not be used in VVCC membership lists 本人不欲名子用於VVCC會員名冊中

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE
所有捐贈可獲扣稅

2

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc

¿Cómo puedo ayudar al VVCC?

Hazte amigo del VVCC

<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	Membresía regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	Centro de ayuda legal
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	Anuarios de 60 años y más	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	Centro de necesidades básicas
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	Membresía de apoyo	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	Centro patrocinador
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Centro de amigos		

Escribi pagando con Cheque, o por Cuenta de depósito directo (Por favor consulte con nuestro banco)

Nombre _____

Dirección _____

Ciudad _____

Estado _____

Código postal _____

Teléfono durante el Día _____ noche _____

Email _____

Mi empleador tiene un programa de regalos igual

nombre del empleador

Estoy interesado en aprender de las oportunidades para voluntariado

He nombrado al VVCC como beneficiario en mi testamento

Mi membresía es un regalo en memoria de _____

Prefiero que mi nombre no se use en la lista de miembros del VVCC

Toda donación es deducible de impuestos
Mailing Address: VVCC Membership, 50 Raymond Ave., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94134

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Learning Opportunities for Your Child!

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San Francisco
(415) 333-2659

3 N 1 Learning Center
240 Leland Ave.
San Francisco
(415) 584-8555

For More Information, Please Contact
Sandra Davis, Executive Director at (415) 333-2659

Current San Francisco Condo Projects

Transformations continue in San Francisco in the form of condo projects. By 2008, nearly 6000 sale units and 1600 rental units will redefine San Francisco's skyline and revitalize its neighborhoods. Here is a list of some of the projects under construction.

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Developer</u>	<u>Number of Units</u>	<u>Estimated Completion</u>
Hunters Point Phase 1	Lennar/BVHP	1600	2008
One Rincon Hill, 425 First Street	Urban West Associates	709	2008
333 Mission Street	Millennium Partners	420	2008
Arterra, 300 Berry Street	Intracorp SF LLC	269	2007
Candlestick Point, The Cove	Top Vision LLC	176	2006
450 Rhode Island Street	Lambert Development	165	2007
The Hayes, 55 Page Street	Intracorp SF LLC	127	2007
Park Terrace at Mission Bay, 325 Berry Street	Opus West	110	2007
77 Bluxome Street	Charles Breidinger	102	2006
Fillmore Heritage Center, 1300 Fillmore Street	Em Johnson Interest Group	80	2007
25 Sierra Street	TAM/Leavitt	67	2006
973 Market Street (Conversion)	L.J SF Investments LLC	67	2007
83 McAllister Street	Group I	60	2007
1826 Geneva Avenue	Walbridge Terraces LLC	48	2007
Santa Fe Place, 310 Townsend Street	Santa Fe Partners	45	2006



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Grapevine Puzzler World's Biggest Dams

V E N A K E R U N U G O R E N I D R A G
O M T A I L I N G S A N R O Q U E V U A
T B H K E C A W T T E N N E B H Z R S R
A A R A V H F C A C V S A S D G I E U R
R R E M F A S K R C R E R D Y I T W M I
A K E B O P L A A X C V T A E H A O A S
S M G A R E U K I D G B C N V A P L T O
Y E O R T T I H B Y T Y R T D E K A A N
N N R A R O T O M T R G T I G L C U T E
C T G T A N D V U E I H Y W H L E W U W
R A E I N C I K T T S C U A G I P E R C
U I S N D V J A I D A I U D D V T R K O
D L Z S A B K H V L S P U A Z O R S M R
E I X K L G C D G D F A F L B R O Z O N
P N W E L O Z N D F G S G E N O F E S E
I G E S C H A F G D F A F F L A R E U L I
P S R R R M I S S I O N G T F U S U L I
A K B A T A R B E L A G B G U G S A C A
N A W S A E D L E H C S R E T S O O E A
I I U R U C U T A I L I N G S T W O M B

Afsluitdijk Gardiner
Atatürk Garrison
Beas Guri
Bennett WAC High
Boroca Aswan
Chapetón Itumbiara
Cipasang Kakhovka
Cochiti Kambaratinsk
Dantiwada Left Kanev
Embankment Kiev
Fort Peck Lauwerszee
Fort Randall Lower

Usuma Rogun
Mangla San Luis
Mission San Roque
Tailings Two Saratov
Mosul Syncrude
New Cornelia Tailings
Tailings Tabka
Nurek Tarbela
Oahe Three Gorges
Oosterschelde Tucuruii
Oroville Yacyretá-
Pati Apipe

Historic Proportions

1888

Match clues to answers.

- Opened on June 19 in Chicago.
- Organized a congress for women's rights in Washington DC.
- Elected President on Nov. 6 even though he lost the popular vote.
- Founded on Jan. 27 in Washington, DC.
- This country got its first railways.
- This hit the eastern U.S. seaboard on Mar. 11, killing more than 400.
- He patented the typewriter ribbon on Jan. 24.
- A 91 cm. telescope was first used here on Jan. 3.
- Sarawak and Borneo became protectorates of this nation.
- He registered the trademark Kodak on Sept. 4.

Answers: 1-G, 2-F, 3-C, 4-I, 5-E, 6-L, 7-A, 8-D, 9-K, 10-B, 11-H, 12-E.

Sez Who?

Match quotes to speakers.

- "People ask what I do in the winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do: I stare out the window and wait for spring."
- "In politics there is no such thing as an enemy - only someone who disagrees with you today and who might be with you on the next vote."
- "My idea of conceit would be a political speaker that would go on the air when the World Series is on."
- "The whole secret of the study of nature lies in learning how to use one's eyes."
- "Life teaches us to be less harsh with ourselves and with others."
- "The ornament of a house is the friends who frequent it."
- "The soul of a journey is liberty, perfect liberty, to think, feel, do just as one pleases."
- "Opinions cannot survive if one has no chance to fight for them."
- "In nothing is there more evolution than the American mind."

- A. George Sand
- B. Thomas Mann
- C. Will Rogers
- D. Rogers Hornsby
- E. William Hazlitt
- F. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
- G. Walt Whitman
- H. Ralph Waldo Emerson
- I. Gerald Ford

Answers: 1-D, 2-I, 3-C, 4-A, 5-F, 6-H, 7-E, 8-B, 9-G.

As a Matter of Fact

The first public school system in what is now the United States was set up in Massachusetts in 1647. Jackie Fields. He won the feather-weight boxing title in 1924 at the age of 16 years and 162 days.

The first American kindergarten opened in Wisconsin in 1856.

Five Years Ago In the Grapevine

NOVEMBER 2001

"Mac Frugal's, which offered household goods to people of the neighborhood, closed its doors on Oct. 15.

More than 30 Visitacion Valley residents attended an informative residential real estate financing seminar Sept. 29 at the Bank of America on Leland Avenue.

"San Francisco transportation officials, Visitacion Valley and Bayview residents met at the Visitacion Valley Community Center Sept. 12, regarding the impending Muni Third Street Light Rail Project slated to begin construction December 2001.

More than 100 Visitacion Valley and Bayview residents met at the Martin Luther King Swimming Pool to voice concerns about plans to close Coffman Pool for renovation.

Poor Rix's Almanac

by Rix Quinn

Dear Poor Rix: It's nearly time to vote in the 2006 elections. What can you tell me about the history of voting? - Election Emily

Poor Rix would like to vote frequently, sometimes in the same election.

But seriously, voting has helped societies select public officials for years. In ancient times, folks made their choice by dropping corn kernels or beans into their favored candidate's pot. If the candidate took his beans and boiled them, it was called "cooking the election."

Long ago, in small elections with few voters, officials asked the crowd to show a preference by simply raising their hands. This was called "hand-picking a candidate."

Paper ballots appeared in the 19th century. Voters could circle or check their selection, or they could "write in" somebody else. This worked until several folks wrote "Nobody" on their ballots.

When Nobody won, officials had to find a guy by that name to send to the legislature. But he didn't want to go.

Today states can select paper ballots, computer voting, optical scans, or punch cards.

How do we choose candidates? In the early days, party leaders made that selection. In 1903 Wisconsin held the first primary, allowing several aspirants to seek numerous offices.

Today - if you count city, regional, area, state, and national elections - we can all run for something. But not Poor Rix, who will run for free food, but not much else.

Hey, Poor Rix: What do you think about fall campouts? - Outdoorsman

Poor Rix may be the world's worst camper. He believes the great outdoors refers to a screened porch.

As a boy, Poor Rix got lost on a nature hike, but the mall security guard found him wandering aimlessly in a flower bed.

As a teenager, Poor Rix took a date to a picnic, where they sat next to a vicious snake. Poor Rix passed out, but his date revived him and told him the serpent was simply an earthworm.

As an adult, Poor Rix takes no chances. He keeps his windows closed to avoid smog, and applies sunscreen before he turns on a reading lamp.

Poor Rix: What does the term "blowing your own horn" mean? - Student

Poor Rix tried to drum up help to answer this, and fiddled around for several days before writing this reply.

This term means to publicize your best qualities. Poor Rix does this, and sends it to customers as a "fact sheet."

In ancient cultures horn blowing often signaled the arrival of big shots. Today it means (1) somebody important is coming, or (2) you live near the marching band's practice field.

Hey, Poor Rix: My college roommate says he heard that scientists discovered the fossils of a ten-foot-long rat. Is this true? - Dan in the Dorm

Dan, much like some political biographies, your roommate's report is mostly true. Actually, the monster mouse measured nine feet long, many times the size of Poor Rix's gerbil Gerald.

I asked Gerald what he knew. Gerald claims he's heard about several big rats in history, but thinks most of them were human.

This giant rodent lived nearly eight million years ago. Fortunately for 21st century people, the animal is now quite sincerely dead.

Scientists say this beast had huge teeth, a long tail, and weighed as much as a buffalo. This would make him a formidable foe, but a poor dancer.

What did he eat? Poor Rix is not sure, but suspects the answer is "anything he wanted."

Earlier scientific expeditions to that same region found bones of several huge reptiles, including one eight-

foot turtle shell and a bunch of gigantic crocodiles.

Researchers also discovered the teeth of a giant mammal. We're not sure what it was, but you wouldn't want it for a house pet.

Why did those massive rats disappear? No one's sure, but here's a guess: Real, real, real big cats.

Dear Poor Rix: Who invented fire? - Student

Fire's not a new creation. It's been around three gazillion years, long before Poor Rix grew into the primordial slimeball he is today.

Prehistoric people didn't know what to do with flames because (a) nobody had invented cookbooks and (b) they had zero knowledge of chimney design.

Early humans captured fire by taking burning wood from place to place. That's a tough assignment, especially in hot weather with the wind in your face.

This explains why many Neanderthal husbands - just home from a long day of flame carrying - were greeted with the words "Have you been smoking?"

When one log was nearly consumed, carriers used it to ignite another. That's where we get the phrase, "Hey, buddy...got a light?"

Generous prehistoric folks shared their fire with those nearby. But a few squabbling lamebrains took the gesture too far, and lit neighboring huts. That's where we get the term "housewarming."

During medieval times, fire became a powerful weapon. Warriors asked a volunteer to hold a blazing torch in each hand, then sent him running toward the enemy. This brave soldier was called a "knight light."

And many experts say male rabbits should be neutered. The very thought of this makes Poor Rix hop for a hiding place.

Poor Rix: Here's a pre-Thanksgiving question. How old is the turkey species? - Anthropologist

Scientists say birds similar to turkeys originated during the Pliocene era, nearly 3 million years ago. Others say they're distant cousins to a pheasant-like fowl who roamed the world 7 million years before that.

If any birds remain from that time, they're old and wrinkled now...and would look terrible in tank-tops.

Poor Rix offers bad answers to good questions. E-mail him at rixquinn@charter.net.

Grapevine Classified

IT'S NOT SMART to do nothing when you have something negative in your life. The issue somehow affects and becomes everybody's problem

*Getting nervous and upset.

*Feeling sick on a regular basis.

*Feeling like punching out something or someone.

*Feeling like screaming.

*Can't sleep.

*Watching television all night

*Simply not in a happy frame of mind

*Problem making the right choices

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, we need to talk with you. Visitacion Valley Jobs, Education and Training center offers advocacy and mediation services relating to all types of quality-of-life issues. Court-mandated programs available. Service and trust is our commitment to the community. Contact Marjorie Ann Williams, Counselor at (415) 239-2877

GRAPEVINE DISPLAY ADVERTISING: new limited-time rates Full Page \$60, 1/2 Page \$33.75, 1/4 Page \$18.75, 1/8 Page \$10, 1/12 Page \$8, 1/16 Page \$6. Generous discount for three or more insertions. Call (415) 467-9300 for more details. Classified 20 words for \$1. Extra line 50 cents. Ad and payment should be received by 15th of prior month at Visitacion Valley Grapevine, 50 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

GRAPPEVINE 20TH ANNIVERSARY special issue with neighborhood history still available, mailed anywhere in U.S. for \$1. Send to Visitacion Valley Grapevine, 50 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

VOLUNTEERS WANTED for VVCC After School Program to tutor children ages 5-14 at one of our 11 sites in the Visitacion Valley area. Interested persons contact Dee Smith, VVCC After School coordinator (415) 585-2059

Visitacion Valley Police Report

by Ingleside Captain Paul Chignell
Police Cases

*On Sept. 20 at 10 a.m., a police sergeant and an officer responded to the first block of Blythdale where a male had beaten his girlfriend after a dispute over a one year-old child crying. The officers arrested the suspect on a domestic violence charge. At 10:14 p.m., three police sergeants were patrolling together in the Sunnydale Housing area. They noticed numerous gang members loitering on the 100 block of Blythdale. They then saw one suspect start to quickly walk away while holding an area in his waistband. One sergeant took off after the suspect who suddenly started running away. The other sergeants took a different route to cut off the suspect's escape route. The suspect discarded black gloves and then discarded a firearm from his waistband area. Other Ingleside officers arrived to assist and the suspect was taken into custody nearby by two officers. The weapon discarded was a loaded revolver. The suspect, who lives on the 700 block of Missouri, was booked on weapons, resisting arrest and vehicular warrant charges.

*On Sept. 21 at 5 p.m., officers observed a physical fight in the street on the 1700 block of Sunnydale. After an investigation they arrested a woman with no permanent local address for criminal threats and battery.

*On Sept. 22 at 2:54 p.m., officers went to a vacant housing unit on the 600 block of Velasco at the request of the San Francisco Housing Authority and cited a resident of the 700 block of Jerrold for trespassing. At 4:02 p.m. an officer was on patrol on the 1500 block of Sunnydale when suddenly he observed a suspect with a firearm shooting into a crowd on the 1600 block of Sunnydale. The officer called for assistance with numerous Ingleside and Bayview officers responding to the scene. An officer alighted from his patrol car and began a chase of the suspect, who was holding the firearm, southbound on Santos towards Brookdale. He then ran between buildings and emerged again on the 1500 block of Sunnydale with blood on his face and sans the firearm. The officer took the suspect into custody at gunpoint. A victim in the shooting was taken by friends to San Francisco General Hospital suffering from gunshot wounds to the chest and left torso but were not believed to be life threatening according to physicians. Witnesses stated that the firearm used by the suspect had been picked up by passersby and that the suspect had been beaten by residents in the area just before the officer arrested him. The suspect, who lives on the 500 block of Sawyer, was arrested for attempted murder, felony assault and resisting arrest. At 6:44 p.m., officers and two police sergeants responded to the 1600 block of Sunnydale on a report of a burglary in progress. This was on the heels of the shooting earlier in the day on the same block. When the officers arrived at the possible burglary scene there were numerous juveniles inside the premise including one that matched the description of the juvenile who had picked up the gun from the shooting earlier in the day. When the juveniles were allowed to leave the premise, the officers found a firearm under a couch directly where the juvenile had been sitting that matched the description of the juvenile who had picked up the firearm. The officers went into a crowd to detain the suspect but he took off running full speed into the public housing area. The officers chased him down to the 1200 block of Sunnydale, then to Sawyer Street and then on to Towerside and Rey where he was captured by two police sergeants. After questioning, the resident of the 1500 block of Jerrold

admitted retrieving the weapon, and secreting it under the couch. He was arrested on numerous charges. *On Sept. 23 at 10 a.m., a couple who are married and live in Woodland Hills with their four children were involved in a domestic violence incident on the first block of Carrizal from midnight Sept. 18 until 3 a.m. on Sept. 19 where the husband beat the wife, forced their four children to watch, threatened to kill the wife and secreted all of the telephones. The wife fled to her sister's house on Carnizal with her children to escape the violence. The husband arrived at 7 a.m. on Sept. 23 and began banging on the front door but was not allowed admittance. The victim finally called the police with officers arriving on the scene. They arrested the husband for multiple felonies. At 4:33 p.m., officers went to an apartment on the 3500 block of San Bruno and cited a roommate who had assaulted another person in the apartment.

*On Sept. 28 at 3:40 p.m., officers were on patrol when they spotted a stolen vehicle parked on the 200 block of Blythdale. One suspect was huddled near the vehicle but was not in it. They stopped and determined that the resident of the 200 block of Blythdale was wanted by the Sacramento County Sheriff for a probation violation involving the sale of narcotics with no bail.

*On Oct. 2 at 7:40 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Sunnydale and Rutland for a stop sign violation.

The driver, who lives on the 200

block of Argonaut, was unlicensed and uninsured. He was cited and his 1992 Subaru was towed.

*On Oct. 3 at 1:18 a.m., officers went to Garrison and Rey and met with representatives of the Heritage Homes who had detained a repeat trespasser. The suspect, who lives on the 300 block of Velasco, was cited for trespassing.

*On Oct. 9 at 9:05 p.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Sunnydale and Hahn for a stop sign violation. The driver, who lives in American Canyon, was driving with a suspended license. He was cited and his 2006 Chrysler was towed.

*On Oct. 10 at 4:10 p.m., officers and a police sergeant went to the 500 block of Velasco where two suspects in a black car pulled up to the residence and took a baseball bat to one of the victim's cars and smashed out the windshield. The suspects then attacked two victims with the bat and their fists causing head injuries to the victims. The victims stated that the suspects were beating them up over a business deal from their native country in Latin America. A description of the suspects and their vehicle as broadcast. Officers Venus Williams and Michael Hutchings located the vehicle and the main suspect on the 1900 block of San Jose. The suspect, who lives in Richmond, was arrested for felony assault and malicious mischief. At 9:30 p.m., officers went to the 100 block of Ankeny on a domestic violence case where the husband had beaten his wife and broken her cell phone. The suspect was arrested on three charges.

*On Oct. 12 at 9:59 a.m., officers went to an elementary school on the first block of Schwerin and admonished a resident of the 1500 block of Sunnydale for bringing an air gun to campus. At 3:44 p.m. on the 400 block of Raymond, an officer admonished a 12 year-old boy who lives on the 1000 block of Palou for inappropriately touching a girl at Visitacion Valley Middle School. At 8 p.m., officers went to the 600 block of Campbell where a repetitive domestic violence suspect had strangled and beaten his wife. The suspect was booked on two felony counts. At 9:24 p.m., a police inspector of the Gang Task Force (formerly of the Ingleside Station) was working with the FBI on the 100 block of Blythdale when he saw a number of suspected gang members loitering. He found that one of the suspects, who lives in Oakland, was in possession of cocaine.

*On Oct. 13 at 8:19 a.m., officers

stopped a driver at Sunnydale and Rutland for going through a stop sign. The resident of the 100 block of Kellogg was driving with a suspended license, was uninsured and was wanted on a warrant for exactly the same thing. His 1989 Ford was towed.

*On Oct. 15 at 12:04 a.m., officers went to the 100 block of Britton where a suspect had grabbed his four children to watch, threatened to kill the wife and secreted all of the telephones. The wife fled to her sister's house on Carnizal with her children to escape the violence. The husband arrived at 7 a.m. on Sept. 23 and began banging on the front door but was not allowed admittance. The victim finally called the police with officers arriving on the scene. They arrested the husband for multiple felonies. At 4:33 p.m., officers went to an apartment on the 3500 block of San Bruno and cited a roommate who had assaulted another person in the apartment.

*On Oct. 17 at 2:13 a.m., officers went to the 500 block of Velasco and took a suspect residing there into custody on a prior kidnapping, domestic violence and threats case. At 7:52 a.m., an officer responded to a fight between two parties at Carter and Geneva over a non-injury accident. One of the parties, who lives on the 4600 block of Mission, was unlicensed and uninsured. He was cited and his 1989 Toyota was towed.

*On Oct. 19 at 5:05 p.m., officers were on patrol when they spotted a suspect loitering at Sunnydale and Garrison. The suspect, who lives on the 100 block of Loehr, was wanted on a no-bail warrant from San Mateo County for narcotics and weapons. He was also in possession of marijuana packaged for sale and methamphetamine.

*On Oct. 20 at 2:47 p.m., officers stopped a stolen car being driven on the 1500 block of Sunnydale. They stopped the vehicle and arrested a resident of the 1800 block of Sunnydale for auto theft. At 4:20 p.m., officers went to the first block of Santos where an adult son had beaten his mother. The police have responded a number of times to the same address. The suspect was booked for elder abuse.

*On Oct. 21 at 7:06 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle at Bayshore and Arleta for a registration violation. The driver, who lives on the 200 block of Hahn, was unlicensed and uninsured. He was cited and his 1988 Honda was towed. At 8:15 p.m., officers went to the 200 block of Rey where Heritage Homes Security was holding a woman in possession of a "crack" pipe. The officers cited the resident of the 300 block of Velasco for possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

*On Oct. 22 at 9:50 a.m., officers went to the 100 block of Girard St., where a woman stated that a suspect, who was an ex-boyfriend, had repeatedly been stalking her by showing up at her residence, throwing rocks at her windows and shaking a gate in the front of the structure. The officers located the

suspect hiding between two parked cars. He was arrested for stalking and for a no bail parole warrant.

Police Summaries

- *Sept. 20, 200 block of Hahn St., breaking windows
- *Sept. 20, First block of Kellogg Ave., threats
- *Sept. 21, 300 block of Arleta Ave., mental detention, 40 year-old female.
- *Sept. 21, 39 Raymond Ave., stolen 1995 Honda
- *Sept. 21, 423 Raymond Ave., found 1996 Acura
- *Sept. 22, First block of Blythdale Ave., vandalism
- *Sept. 22, Felton and San Bruno Ave., lost cell phone
- *Sept. 22, 39 Raymond Ave., stolen 1995 Honda
- *Sept. 22, 220 Wilde Ave., found 1992 Honda
- *Sept. 23, 1200 Girard St., found 2002 Ford
- *Sept. 23, 200 block of Sawyer St., malicious mischief
- *Sept. 23, 51 Tucker Ave., stolen 2000 Toyota
- *Sept. 24, 3 a.m., First block of Brookdale Ave., arson, "molotov cocktail" thrown through window
- *Sept. 24, 9:23 a.m., Sunnydale and Garrison Aves., shooting, 17 year-old victim shot multiple times, possible brown vehicle with four occupants are the suspects.
- *Sept. 25, 144 Cora St., found 1984 Honda
- *Sept. 25, First block of Talbert St., stayaway order violation
- *Sept. 27, 700 block of Sunnydale Ave., found 57 year-old woman.
- *Sept. 28, 200 block of Argonaut Ave., missing 10 year-old boy
- *Sept. 28, 226 Blythdale Ave., found 1990 Nissan
- *Sept. 28, 327 Velasco Ave., stolen 1991 Honda
- *Sept. 29, 200 block of Argonaut Ave., found 10 year-old boy
- *Sept. 30, 9:59 a.m., Mansell and Somerset Sts., robbery, purse-snatch
- *Sept. 30, 200 block of Blythdale Ave., threats
- *Sept. 30, 1845 Geneva Ave., stolen 1985 Nissan
- *Sept. 30, Sunnydale Ave. and Santos St., vandalism to vehicle.
- *Oct. 1, 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., attempted stolen vehicle
- *Oct. 2, First block of Brookdale Ave., found 10 year-old boy
- *Oct. 2, Mansell St. and Visitacion Ave., detention and release
- *Oct. 3, 10:47 a.m., First block of Brookdale Ave., burglary, felony assault
- *Oct. 3, 6:20 p.m., Arleta Ave. and Delta St., suspected robbers detained and released after suspicious activity observed by officers, possibly interrupted a robbery that was planned.
- *Oct. 3, 1400 Felton St., found license plate from 1990 Toyota
- *Oct. 3, 200 block of Rey St., gang dispute
- *Oct. 3, 1100 block of Sunnydale Ave., disturbing the peace, fight
- *Oct. 5, 8 p.m., 3500 block of San Bruno Ave., malicious mischief, drunk arrest
- *Oct. 6, 3:28 a.m., 100 block of Leland Ave., burglary, store
- *Oct. 6, 6:24 a.m., 400 block of Carter St., arson of dwelling
- *Oct. 6, 3:40 p.m., 1100 block of Girard St., burglary, suspect known, domestic violence
- *Oct. 6, 8:40 p.m., 100 block of Brookdale Ave., stolen car, no license, arrested
- *Oct. 7, 12 noon, Rutland and Sunnydale Ave., driving with suspended license, warrants, resists arrest
- *Oct. 7, 7:21 p.m., Cora and Leland Ave., stop sign, suspended license, cited and car towed
- *Oct. 8, 12:06 a.m., Schwerin and Visitacion Ave., robbery, six suspects,强盗。
- *Oct. 8, 9:50 a.m., 1900 block of Geneva Ave., no license plate, suspended license, cited and car towed
- *Oct. 8, 1:42 p.m., 100 block of Rey St., domestic violence arrest
- *Oct. 8, 8:30 p.m., 700 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary, school
- *Oct. 8, 8:48 p.m., 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., stayaway order violation arrest
- *Oct. 9, 7:30 a.m., 6:20 p.m., 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary, door, computer
- *Oct. 10, 12 noon, Sunnydale Ave. and Santos St., victim shot in foot, uncooperative with police
- *Oct. 11, 8:40 p.m., 180 Britton St., stolen 1999 Honda
- *Oct. 12, 1800 block of Silliman St., missing 41 year-old woman
- *Oct. 12, 1200 block of Sunnydale Ave., threatening phone calls
- *Oct. 12, 1500 block of Sunnydale Ave., breaking windows
- *Oct. 12, 29 Tucker Ave., stolen license plates
- *Oct. 22, 2 p.m., 100 block of Santos St., felony assault, metal buckle
- *Oct. 22, 695 Campbell Ave., stolen 1992 Ford
- *Oct. 22, 1800 block of Silliman St., found, 42 year-old female.

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Basic Skills Lab	Mon-Fri 9-10 a.m.	313
Pre-GED Preparation	Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	313
GED Preparation Math	Mon-Thur 11 a.m.-1 p.m.	413
ESL for the Workplace	Mon-Thur 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	103
	450 Raymond St.	

FOR MORE INFO CALL 415.550.4344 OR SEE NONCREDIT FALL 2006 CLASS SCHEDULE AT WWW.CCSF.EDU

Bayview Police Station Update

Halloween Safety Tips

by Bayview Captain Albert Pardini

As you and your youngest acquaintances plan this year's Halloween festivities, the officers at Bayview Station hope you might consider adopting a few of the tips below for costume design, traffic safety, and trick or treating. To begin with, incorporate glow sticks and reflective tape into costume design. If you plan to use face-paint, make sure it is cosmetically approved. When purchasing or making costumes, make sure the mouth and eyeholes are large enough, that the costumes are not too long, and take care that they are made of fire retardant material. Open flames are often a part of Halloween decorations. If you plan to display Jack-o'-Lanterns outside, bear in mind that ghosts, damsels, and superheroes may be brushing past them as they ply you for goodies. Think about using properly insulated electric lights instead, and position decorations away from foot-traffic patterns.

Adults, make sure your young ones know not to enter any stranger's car or home. Always inspect their "loot" before letting them consume it. Consider disposing of anything that is not packaged or home made. Examine all fruit that unknown patrons give as a treat, and wash them thoroughly.

At least one adult should always accompany young children as they trick-or-treat. A two-to-one ratio is ideal. Try to move in larger groups, keep a head-count, and plan your route. Sew names, addresses and phone numbers inside your young voyagers' clothing. If your children are older or teen aged, make an agreement with them to return home at a specific time and share their plans with you. Again, large groups!

Reinforce crossing at corners only, looking both ways, and walking. Never walk out from between parked cars. Never insist on the right of way, and use illuminated or reflecting devices to mark your progress. If the traditional house-to-house trick or treating makes you uncomfortable these days, contact your schools and plan to attend locally orchestrated activities instead.

Remember, if you dial 9-1-1 from a cell phone, you may reach the California Highway Patrol in Sacramento instead of your local office of emergency communications. If you are a San Francisco resident and you have a cell phone, program this seven-digit number for local 9-1-1 response: (415) 553-8090. Have fun! Police Cases

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2006, 4:28 and 5:02 p.m., San Bruno Avenue Corridor, Theft from Person Arrests: The Bayview Street Crimes Unit conducted a robbery abatement operation along the San Bruno corridor in response to numerous reports of robberies in the area. In the first incident, two juvenile suspects were arrested and later cited and released into the custody of their parents. The team then went back out onto the street and shortly thereafter arrested an adult suspect who was booked into custody at Bayview Station. While we cannot give details on the operation in both cases, the suspects were astounded to find that their "easy prey" was actually a team of undercover police officers determined to make the Bayview a safer neighborhood for all by arresting those cowards who prey on the innocent.

Monday, Sept. 25, 9:20 a.m., Little Hollywood, Warrant Arrest: Responding to complaints from Little Hollywood residents, a Bayview homeless officer and the Fugitive Recovery Team located a man who was wanted in San Mateo, who had been living in a blue van on Tunnel, causing problems for Little Hollywood residents. The man, who resisted arrest, was soon taken into

custody and booked at County Jail on the warrant. On his way to jail, the suspect cursed at the officer, and threatened her and her property.

*Saturday, Sept. 30, 9:33 p.m. Fraud on eBay: The victim came to Bayview Station to report that he had been defrauded on a eBay transaction. The victim was selling a watch for a substantial amount of money on eBay. The winner of the auction agreed to deposit the money directly to the victim's bank account. The victim gave his account number to the suspect and the money was in fact transferred into the account. The victim then sent the watch to the suspect. A few days later, the victim noticed that his account balance was too low. He checked with the bank and found that the suspect had reversed the payment. The victim called the suspect and agreed to meet with her in Cypress, CA. However, when the victim responded to the address where he sent the watch, he found a vacant house with a for rent sign on the house. Most eBay and other internet transactions involve honest people who pay for what they buy. However, there are enough people out there that are dishonest that you must protect yourself. Do not give out your bank account numbers to anyone on the Internet. Use payment services like Paypal so that you can track the payment. Never send cash through the mail.

*Friday, Oct. 13, 9:21 a.m., Portola District, Burglary Series: A week-and-a-half before, officers responded to the scene of a residen-

tial burglary. In that case, a woman left her premises and saw a stranger standing across the street. The woman continued with her errand and returned a few minutes later. She entered her house and found that the same woman was now in a rear bedroom and the window was now opened. In the woman's possession was a bag of the victim's belongings. The victim chased the suspect out of her house and down the street, where she lost sight of her. CSI responded and processed the scene and found the suspect's fingerprints. Computer analysis revealed the identity of not only the suspect but also that she is wanted in three other residential burglaries in the Portola District. An officer followed up with CSI and the Burglary Inspectors and go the name of the suspect. He also learned that the suspect was a parolee at large. The officer went to the woman's last place of residence on the 100 block of Olmstead Street. He knocked on the door and woman identified the suspect as her son's girlfriend that resides in the basement apartment. The officer called for additional units to surround the property to prevent escape. He knocked on the door and heard people yelling, "The cops are outside." Because the woman was a parolee at large the police were legally able to force entry into the room and they did. The suspect was brought into custody. The woman, a 29 year-old felon, was transported to the Burglary Inspectors for further questioning. The woman was later booked for numerous burglary and theft related charges as well as her parole warrant.

Launch of S.F. Emergency Text-Message Alerting System

In commemoration of the 17th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake, Mayor Gavin Newsom on Oct. 17 announced the launch of AlertSF, a new emergency text-message alerting system for the public, coordinated through the Department of Emergency Management.

This new system – powered by the Roam Secure Alert Network – will provide post-disaster information and tsunami alerts in the event of an earthquake or major disaster, to those who sign up for free at <http://www.alertsf.org/>

AlertSF will deliver messages to registered email accounts and wireless devices such as cell phones, Blackberrys, text-capable pagers and PDAs.

"Since text messaging is one of the most popular ways of communicating today, AlertSF will be an important tool to help San Franciscans stay informed when a disaster occurs," said Mayor Newsom.

"AlertSF will send registrants vital information and instructions such as tsunami alerts and shelter information in certain types of emergencies," said Deputy Director of Emergency

Services Annemarie Conroy.

Text messaging has proven to be a reliable means of communication, especially when other systems are down, as was the case after 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina. Roam Secure technology is being used to power similar systems in Washington DC, Virginia, Maryland and San Mateo County.

The AlertSF system allows users to indicate zip codes and specific addresses in the City that concern them. This specific information will allow users to receive alerts targeted to their neighborhoods. In the future, the system may be expanded to include other types of information such as traffic delays, power outages, and road closures.

An advertising campaign is currently appearing on approximately 134 Muni buses, 2,000 interior bus cards and 30 bus shelters throughout the City to encourage residents and visitors to register for AlertSF.

AlertSF messages can currently be sent in English and Spanish. Most text-capable devices in the U.S. can only receive messages in languages that utilize the Roman alphabet. Messages in additional

New Environmental Retrofitting for Regional Diesel Fuel Transit Vehicles

Mayor Gavin Newsom was joined recently by representatives of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the area's transit systems (including Muni, AC Transit, Golden Gate Bridge District, VTA, SamTrans, and County Connection) to announce an diesel cleanup program for the area's transit providers.

More than 1,700 diesel buses from 13 Bay Area transit districts are being retrofitted with diesel exhaust purifiers. Combined, these high-tech emission control filters annually capture more than 50 tons of harmful particulate matter and 436 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) that buses otherwise would have spewed into Bay Area air.

San Francisco Muni leads the way by retrofitting 424 diesel buses – the most of any transit district.

This is an important and unique advancement because Diesel particulate matter is a toxic air contaminant that can cause lung disease and cancer. NOx, another component of diesel exhaust, is a precursor to ozone, which can cause respiratory disease. Children and the elderly are particularly vulnerable.

"We're learning more and more about what causes global warming and what we need to do to be more 'proactive' in eliminating these harmful elements and gases from our air and environment," said Mayor Newsom. "This program serves as yet another example of San Francisco and the Bay Area leading the way with its

unprecedented investments in clean air, renewable energy, creating a comprehensive Climate Action Plan, and the continued promotion of recycling and conservation."

The diesel exhaust purifiers are designed and installed by Cleaire Advanced Emission Controls of San Leandro – a local firm leading the way for California and the nation in cleaning up dangerous diesel exhaust.

The purifiers capture 85 percent of the particulate matter – including the dangerous ultrafine particulates that cause the worst health problems – and reduce 25 percent of the NOx created by the buses' engines.

On an average Bay Area bus, each diesel exhaust purifier reduces particulate matter emissions by 60 pounds per year and reduces NOx emissions by 517 pounds per year.

About 60 percent of diesel particulate matter is Black Carbon, which is a contributor to global warming. Also, the hydrocarbons in diesel exhaust contribute to global warming. The filters installed on the buses in the Clean Diesel Bus Program reduce hydrocarbon emissions by 88 tons a year.

This unique program is also considered a financially sound approach to combating global warming and reducing harmful emission. Diesel emissions can be cleaned up in two ways: replace the vehicle or retrofit the exhaust. Although some clean new buses have been purchased, however Muni's workhorse diesel buses typically last 20 years or longer, so it is a wiser use of scarce public dollars to install filters on buses with years of life remaining rather than scrap the entire bus.

Each filter installation costs about \$18,000, compared to \$140,000 or more for a new bus. By upgrading 424 buses instead of replacing them, Muni saved \$50 million and is delivering the environmental and health benefits of clean emissions.

VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE

Albert Kuan, D.D.S.



10 Percent Senior Discount

37 Leland Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94134

Monday thru Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed on Thursday

Phone 239-5500
for an appointment
Cantonese Spoken

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

240 Leland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

The Rev. Dr. Jerry O. Resus, Minister

Church School Classes: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 11:00 a.m.
Friday Bible Fellowship: 7:30 p.m.
Saturday Choir Rehearsal: 10:00 a.m.

You are cordially welcome to join us for study, worship, fellowship and service. We seek to teach the Bible and to lift up Jesus Christ so He can draw all persons to Himself.

Come to Church This Week

Visitacion Valley Community Center Senior Program

Funded by S.F. Department of Aging & Adult Services

Open 365 Days a Year
Lunch Served Every Day

Senior Bingo - Holiday Crafts
Senior Council - Day Outings
Exercise - Gambling Trips
Ceramics - Potlucks
Mahjong - Blood Pressure
Birthday Parties
Holiday Celebrations

66 Raymond Avenue 467-4499

Visitacion Valley Business Directory

Valley free listings in the 415 area code
Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300

AQUARIUM
DRAGON CITY AQUARIUM, 144 Leland Ave., 333-4598

AUTOMOTIVE
BAYSHORE AUTO, 2260 Bayshore Blvd, 467-6130
BAYSHORE SERVICE, 2596 Bayshore Blvd, 239-5239
BROTHER'S AUTO BODY, 2520 Bayshore Blvd
CHARLIE'S GARAGE, 2560 Bayshore Blvd, 239-7450
TW AUTOMOTIVE, 2500 Bayshore Blvd, 585-8281

BANK
BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave, 622-4501

BAKERS
LITTLE QUAPO BAKE SHOP, 169 Leland Ave, 239-2253

BARBERS
BARBERSHOP, 3570 San Bruno Ave, 724-4398
DEMASTIS BARBERSHOP, 35 Leland Ave.
THE SHOP (JB), 178 Leland Ave, 239-6709

BEAUTICIANS
BODY, SOUL & SPIRIT, 222 Leland Ave, 333-7261
FACE, BODY & SOUL (Skincare Treatments), 3582 San Bruno Ave, 467-3223

MAY MAY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave, 337-9381

MIZ RENAS SALON, 19 Blanken Ave, 467-3399

NAILS BY JENNY, 50 Leland Ave, 333-6800

WHO'S BAD?, 224 Leland Ave, 657-3156

BLIND CLEANING
SPEEDY ULTRASONIC BLIND CLEANING (commercial and residential), 1116 Grand St, 467-7506

BOARDING HOUSE
ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rutland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4693

BOOKKEEPERS
AMY ARAGON, PROFESSIONAL BOOKKEEPER, 467-8927

CARPETS
HANSAN INTERIORS, 41 Leland Ave, 333-6382

CASKETS
CASKETORIUM, INC, 93 Leland Ave, 585-3451

CHURCHES
CHURCH OF THE VISITACION, 655 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5950

IGLESIA EL ESPRITU SANTO, 38 Leland Ave

KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave, 468-1213

RIDGE VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 590 Leland Ave., 239-5457

ST JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave, 586-6381

VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 305 Raymond Ave, 467-6055

VISITACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St, 333-4503

COFFEE
CANDLESTICK COFFEE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd, 467-2442

HAPPY DONUT, 2600 Bayshore Blvd, 469-5309

JOE, 28 Leland Ave

CREDIT UNION
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 29 Leland Ave, 434-0738

DAY CARE
CAROUSEL DAY CARE, 261 Hahn St, 469-5353

NOTARY
ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE, 46 Leland Ave, 333-4900

ORGANIZATIONS
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2442 Bayshore Blvd, 587-2089

GENEVA TERRACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 60 Burt Ave, 584-2700

GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY, 2050 Sunnydale Ave, 333 Schwinn St, 584-4044

JOHN KING SENIOR COMMUNITY, 500 Raymond Ave, 239-6233

LELAND HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave, 405-2000

ROCK (Real Options for City Kids), 590 Leland Ave, 333-4001

VISITACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave, 467-4499

PHARMACY
VISITACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave, 239-5811

PHOTOGRAPHER
WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St, 587-9471, fax 337-8620

PLUMBING
MARK VOELKNER PLUMBING, 99 Arieta Ave, 467-7401

POST OFFICE
VISITACION USPO, 68 Leland Ave, (800) 275-8777

REAL ESTATE
JUSTYNA P TO (Century 21), 2488 Junipero Serra Blvd, Daly City 94015, (650) 991-5215, Mobile (415) 830-1235

CATHY KLINE SAUNDERS (Zephyr Real Estate), 215 West Portal Ave, 731-5011 ex 163

RESTAURANTS
BAYSIDE CAFE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd, 467-2023

G & L BAKERY & RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave, 239-6283

HERNANDEZ TAQUERIA & BAKERY, 98 Leland Ave, 587-7721

LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave, 585-1167

MISS MATTIE'S SUNFLOWER BLUES CAFE, 107 Leland Ave, 333-8854

PHO Y & G RESTAURANT, 73 Leland Ave, 469-5686

TWO JACKS, 167 Leland Ave, 337-0433

SCULPTOR
CARTORIGINALS (Metal Carver), 2 Hahn St, 239-4138

SELF-DEVELOPMENT
DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Marjorie Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist) 467-7608

SERVICE PROVIDERS
THE VILLAGE (Community Center), 1099 Sunnydale Ave, 330-5045

VISITACION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH OUTREACH CENTER, 57 Leland Ave

VISITACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & TRAINING (VBESTS), 120 Leland Ave

VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (VVC), 50 Raymond Ave, 467-6400

WVCC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER, 161 Leland Ave, 586-6998, Fax 586-8027

VISITACION VALLEY JOBS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VJET), 1099 Sunnydale Ave, 239-2666

TAVERN
THE CLUB HOUSE, 25 Blanken Ave

TELEPHONE
D & A WIRELESS, 78 Leland Ave, 452-4139

VARIETY
GOLDEN 99 CENTS ZONE, 5-7 Leland Ave, 333-3923

Reindeer Romp at San Francisco Zoo

VISITACION VALLEY GRAPEVINE NOVEMBER 2006-11
The San Francisco Zoo is bringing back its delightful reindeer – Holly, Velvet, Peppermint, and Belle – for a special, one-month holiday visit. The wildly popular Reindeer Romp is the only opportunity in the Bay Area to see real live reindeer.

The female adult reindeer, resplendent in their red holiday harnesses and velvet-like antlers, will be housed at the Christmas-themed Reindeer Romp Village located appropriately on the north side of the Zoo. Sponsored in part by Neiman Marcus of Palo Alto, Reindeer Romp will provide a vivid, unforgettable holiday experience for youngsters. Reindeer Romp will spread holiday cheer from Thanksgiving Day through New Year's Day, rain or shine, and is free with paid Zoo admission.

For more information, call the events

Native and Drought Tolerant Plant Classes

Classes are held on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Garden for the Environment (GFE), 7th Avenue at Lawton Street. Call 731-5627 for more information or to pre-register.

*Nov. 11: Native Plant Landscaping

- Join in covering the basics and benefits of using native plants in your garden from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn how to select, propagate and care for natives, to have year-round beauty, save water and work, and provide vital food and shelter for local birds and butterflies.

*Nov. 18: Drought Tolerant Plants

Part II - Winter rains are just on the horizon. Participate in the final plant selection for the Drought Tolerant Demonstration bed at the GFE. Be included in the process of careful selection as we discuss and evaluate the numerous and fascinating considerations that influence the decision-making. They'll finish by planting the final design into place. Free!

hotline at (415) 753-7071. The is open all year, including Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Also, during weekends in December through Sunday, Dec. 24, visitors can enjoy crafts and festive holiday entertainment at the Zoo. Holiday shoppers also can do their holiday gift buying at the Zoo's Wildlife Connection gift store, open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; no entry fee required to visit the store. As a special gift, shoppers also may consider an Adopt-An-Animal gift which benefits the San Francisco Zoological Society. For more information on Adopt-An-Animal, visit adoptanimal@sfzoo.org.

Events at Visitacion Valley Branch Library

Following are events in September at the Visitacion Valley Branch Library:

*Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, Tuesday: Preschool Storytime for ages 3-5 at 10:30 a.m.

*Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, Tuesday: Infant/Toddler Lapsit with stories songs and rhythms for young children ages birth-3 at 11:15 a.m.

*Nov. 8, Wednesday: Preschool Videos for ages 3-5 at 10:30 a.m.

*Nov. 28, Tuesday: Be a Kalimba Kid! Carl Winters, Kalimba King, plays the African thumb piano and sings traditional and original songs at 1 p.m. for ages 5-12.

Visitacion Valley Branch Library is located at 45 Leland Ave. (at Desmond Street). Call (415) 355-2848.

Crossword Puzzle Solution

B	A	T	A	G	H	A	T	E	A	L
U	T	E	B	O	A	Z	O	D	I	O
C	U	R	A	L	L	O	T	M	E	N
K	A	M	F	O	V	E	A			
A	B	A	A	T	A	J	O			
T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	O	A	R
A	K	A	L	E	T	U	P	A	S	P
H	I	N	T		B	E	E	H	O	U
A	E	T	A	T		I	C	C		
B	O	H	E	A		H	A	A		
M	A	L	L	E	A	B	L	E	R	I
E	V	O	E	N	O	T	E	I	D	S
G	A	I	T		G	N	A	R	A	SH

Visitacion Valley Family and Community Services Center

For a Better, Healthier, Safer Community for All

We Can Help You!

Complete Immigration documents, assist with SF County paperwork (Medi-Cal, Welfare, etc.), education workshops, referrals to other services

Public Enrollment Kindergarten Workshop

Friday, November 3
5:30 - 7 p.m.
50 Raymond Ave.

Free light dinner and childcare!

Meet and Eat Games and Activities

Thursday, November 9
5:30 - 7 p.m.

Theme: Family Movie Night

Free light dinner and books!

Parents and children playgroup interaction

Every Wednesday

November 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
6 - 8 p.m.

Men's Classes Facilitated by Before The After FREE Refreshments

Parents Support Group

Thursday, November 30
5:30 - 7 p.m.
Part I:

Family Relationship

Free Dinner and Childcare

November 2006 Activities

held at 161 Leland Avenue except where noted

Enhanced Information and Referral

Every Monday Through Friday
November 1 to 30
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Free Food Distribution

Every Monday, 3 - 4 p.m.
November 6, 13, 20 and 27
Emergency food box available anytime.
Call (415) 586-6998, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5p.m.

Individual and Family Counseling

Thursday, November 30
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

For appointment, please call Julia Carmen at (650) 738-8045 or FCSC Staff at (415) 586-6998



161 Leland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134

Tel: (415) 586-6998 Fax: (415) 556-5027 e-mail: meriam_vvcc@sbcglobal.net



**Cathy began looking at Visitacion Valley real estate in 1949,
and she's been out in front of the competition ever since.**

Cathy has been the most successful REALTOR® in Visitacion Valley for more than 20 years.

She was born and raised in the Valley, and has successfully represented buyers and sellers for years. She's actively involved in neighborhood charities and community events.

For all your real estate needs, call Cathy!

Cathy Kline Saunders
Broker Associate, REALTOR®
415.731.5000 ext 163

